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fecting station, and 745 bundles of clothing and bedding were disinfected. The returns from the sanitary board show that the following communicable diseases were reported during the week, viz, 5 cases of plague and 4 deaths, 25 cases of cholera and 24 deaths, 3 cases of smallpox and 1 death, and 1 case of diphtheria. The total cases of plague reported thus far this year are, therefore, 20. For the corresponding week last year there were 65 cases reported. Of the cholera cases reported 1 was an European passenger who arrived from Manila aboard the steamship *Rubi*, April 22. He was taken ill the night of April 24 and sent to the hospital the following morning. A case of cholera was discovered aboard this steamer just prior to sailing for Manila, April 24, and at our request the vessel was held in quarantine to complete a period of five days, disinfection of the vessel being done at once. The usual disinfection of the crew was carried out directly after the case occurred. Thus far no other cases have developed.

Respectfully,

JOHN W. KERR,

Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Cholera and plague disappearing at Canton, but raging at Fatsan.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 4, 1902.

SIR: For the information of the U. S. Marine-Hospital Service, I have the honor to advise you that the Department is in receipt of a telegram from the consul of the United States at Canton, China, which reads as follows: "Cholera plague Canton disappearing, raging Fatsan."

Respectfully,

JOHN HAY,

Secretary of State.

Hon. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

COLOMBIA.

Weekly reports of conditions and transactions at Bocas del Toro—Fruit port.

BOCAS DEL TORO, COLOMBIA, May 20, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the conditions and transactions at this port during the week ended May 19, 1902:

Population according to census, not obtainable. Number of cases and deaths from yellow fever during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from smallpox during the week, no cases, 1 death; number of cases and deaths from typhus fever during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from cholera during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from plague during the week, none; number of deaths from other causes during the week, 1. Prevailing diseases, malarial. The 1 death recorded "from other causes" was the result of gunshot wounds. General sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, good.

Bills of health were issued to the following vessels: May 13, steamship *Holstein*, crew, 24; passengers from this port, 1; passengers in transit, none; baggage disinfected, none. May 14, steamship *Harald*, crew, 19; passengers from this port, 1; passengers in transit, none; baggage disinfected, 2. May 17, steamship *Mount Vernon*, crew, 21; passengers from this port, none; passengers in transit, none; baggage disinfected,

none; steamship *Hispania*, crew, 22; passengers from this port, none; passengers in transit, none; baggage disinfected, none.

Respectfully,

PAUL OSTERHOUT,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

BOCAS DEL TORO, COLOMBIA, *May 27, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the conditions and transactions at this port during the week ended May 26, 1902:

Population according to census not obtainable.

Number of cases and deaths from yellow fever during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from smallpox during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from typhus fever during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from cholera during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from plague during the week, none; number of deaths from other causes during the week, 2. Prevailing diseases, malarial in character. One of the above noted deaths was a soldier, and due to malarial fever; the other (female), traumatic septic fever. General sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, good. During the past week about 1,500 Government troops have been brought to this place, principally from Panama. Some have been placed on the different islands near this point. I am told by their attending physician that quite a number (about 50), located at Old Bank, on Provision Island, have chills and fever, and about 10 have dysentery. Of this number reported sick only about 15 are unable to perform duty. Owing to their having come from Panama, I have made especial inquiry as to any infectious or contagious diseases.

Bills of health were issued to the following vessels: May 22, steamship *Alabama*, crew, 19; passengers from this port, none; passengers in transit, none; baggage disinfected, none. May 25, steamship *Kitty*, crew, 20; passengers from this port, none; passengers in transit, none; baggage disinfected, none.

Respectfully,

PAUL OSTERHOUT,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

COSTA RICA.

Weekly report of conditions and transactions at Port Limon—Fruit port.

PORT LIMON, COSTA RICA, *May 29, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the conditions and transactions at this port during the week ended May 29, 1902:

Present officially estimated population, 4,000. Number of cases and deaths from yellow fever during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from smallpox during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from typhus fever during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from cholera during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from plague during the week, none; number of deaths from other causes during the week, 2. Prevailing disease, mild type of malarial fever. General sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week has been good. The 2 deaths noted above were due to, respectively, asphyxia neonatorum, of a white